

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-33 (*Canceled*)

1 Claim 34. (*Currently Amended*) An image processing system comprising:

2 an image providing apparatus which defines a location information indicating a plurality  
3 of regions in image data for embedding a digital watermark in ~~all regions containing a~~  
4 predetermined region identified by a document information among the plurality of regions and  
5 providing said image data, in which said digital watermark is embedded based on said location  
6 information; and

7 an image utilizing apparatus which extracts said digital watermark from said image data  
8 provided by said image providing apparatus based on said location information, and verifies  
9 whether of said image data in said ~~regions~~ predetermined region, in which said digital watermark  
10 is embedded, has been tampered.

1 Claim 35. (*Currently Amended*) An image processing system comprising:

2 an image providing apparatus which recognizes a format for indicating a plurality of  
3 regions in image data and provides said image data in which a digital watermark is embedded in  
4 ~~all regions containing~~ a predetermined region identified by a document information among the  
5 plurality of regions based on said format; and

6 an image utilizing apparatus which recognizes said format of said image data, extracts  
7 said digital watermark from said regions based on said format, and verifies whether said image  
8 data in said ~~regions~~ predetermined region in said image data, in which said digital watermark is  
9 embedded, has been tampered.

1 Claim 36. (*Previously Presented*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 34  
2 or 35, wherein said image providing apparatus provides said image data in which a different kind  
3 of said digital watermark is embedded in a different region in said image data.

1 Claim 37. (*Previously Presented*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 36,  
2 wherein said image providing apparatus provides said image data in which a different kind of  
3 said digital watermark is embedded according to an image quality in each region where said  
4 digital watermark is embedded.

1           Claim 38. (*Previously Presented*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 34,  
2   wherein:

3           said location information for embedding a digital watermark includes a location  
4   information of a region for displaying a specific information necessary for detecting a tamper;  
5   and

6           said image utilizing apparatus extracts said digital watermark with said message digest  
7   from said image data based on said location information, and generates a corresponding message  
8   digest using said specific information in said provided image data, and detects tampering with  
9   said image data by comparing said extracted message digest with said corresponding generated  
10   message digest.

1           Claim 39. (*Previously Presented*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 34,  
2   wherein:

3           said location information for embedding a digital watermark includes a location  
4   information of a region for displaying a specific information necessary for detecting a tamper  
5   and a location information of a region for embedding a message digest corresponding to said  
6   specific information; and

7           said image utilizing apparatus extracts said digital watermark with said message digest  
8   from said image data based on said location information, generates a corresponding message

9     digest using said specific information in said provided image data, and detects tampering with  
10    said image data by comparing said extracted message digest with said corresponding generated  
11    message digest.

1           Claim 40. (*Original*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 39, wherein said  
2    region for embedding said message digest corresponding to said specific information is  
3    independent of said region for displaying said specific information necessary for detecting said  
4    tamper.

1           Claim 41. (*Previously Presented*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 34,  
2    wherein:

3           said location information is registered in both of said image providing apparatus and said  
4    image utilizing apparatus;

5           said image providing apparatus embeds said digital watermark in said image data based  
6    on said registered location information; and

7           said image utilizing apparatus extracts said digital watermark from said image data based  
8    on said registered location information.

1           Claim 42. (*Previously Presented*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 34,  
2   wherein:

3           said image providing apparatus transfers said location information to said image utilizing  
4   apparatus;

5           said image providing apparatus embeds said digital watermark in said image data based  
6   on said location information to be transferred; and

7           said image utilizing apparatus extracts said digital watermark from said image data based  
8   on said location information transferred from said image providing apparatus.

1           Claim 43. (*Currently Amended*) An image providing apparatus comprising:

2           a location defining means which defines a location information indicating a plurality of  
3   regions in image data for embedding a digital watermark in ~~all regions containing a~~  
4   predetermined region identified by a document information among the plurality of regions in  
5   said image data; and

6           a providing means which provides said image data in which said digital watermark is  
7   embedded based on said location information.

1 Claim 44. (*Currently Amended*) An image providing apparatus comprising:

2 a format recognizing means which recognizes a format for indicating a plurality of  
3 regions in image data; and

4 a providing means which provides said image data in which a digital watermark is  
5 embedded in ~~all regions containing~~ a predetermined region identified by a document information  
6 among the plurality of regions based on said format.

1 Claim 45. (*Previously Presented*) An image providing apparatus as claimed in claim 43

2 or 44,

3 wherein said providing means provides said image data in which a different kind of said  
4 digital watermark is embedded in a different region in said image data.

1 Claim 46. (*Previously Presented*) An image providing apparatus as claimed in claim 45,

2 wherein said providing means provides said image data in which a different kind of said digital  
3 watermark is embedded according to an image quality in each region where said digital  
4 watermark is embedded.

1           Claim 47. (*Original*) An image providing apparatus as claimed in claim 43, wherein said  
2   location information for embedding a digital watermark includes a location information of a  
3   region for displaying a specific information necessary for detecting a tamper and a location  
4   information of a region for embedding a message digest corresponding to said specific  
5   information.

1           Claim 48. (*Original*) An image providing apparatus as claimed in claim 47, wherein said  
2   region for embedding said message digest corresponding to said specific information is  
3   independent of said region for displaying said specific information necessary for detecting said  
4   tamper.

1           Claim 49. (*Currently Amended*) An image providing apparatus as claimed in claim 43,  
2   further comprising:

3           an image utilizing apparatus that includes:

4                   an inputting means which inputs said image data;

5                   an extracting means which extracts said digital watermark from said image data  
6   based on said location information; and

7                   a verifying means which verifies whether said image data in said ~~regions~~  
8   predetermined region, in which said digital watermark is embedded, has been tampered.

1           Claim 50. (*Currently Amended*) An image providing apparatus as claimed in claim 44,  
2 further comprising:

3           an image utilizing apparatus that includes:

4                   an inputting means which inputs said image data;

5                   an extracting means which extracts said digital watermark from said ~~regions~~  
6 predetermined region based on said format; and

7                   a verifying means which verifies whether said image data in said ~~regions~~  
8 predetermined region, in which said digital watermark is embedded, has been tampered.

1           Claim 51. (*Previously Presented*) An image utilizing apparatus as claimed in claim 49,  
2 further comprising a generating means which generates a corresponding message digest using  
3 said specific information in said input image data, and wherein:

4                   said extracting means which extracts said digital watermark with said message digest  
5 from said image data based on said location information; and

6                   said verifying means which detects tampering with said image data by comparing said  
7 extracted message digest with said corresponding generated message digest.

1           Claim 52. (*Currently Amended*) A recording medium storing a program to be executed by  
2   a computer, said program comprising:  
3           a location defining module which defines a location information indicating a plurality of  
4   regions in image data for embedding a digital watermark in ~~all regions containing a~~  
5   predetermined region identified by a document information among the plurality of regions in  
6   said image data; and  
7           a providing module which provides said image data in which said digital watermark is  
8   embedded based on said location information.

1           Claim 53. (*Currently Amended*) A recording medium storing a program to be executed by  
2   a computer, said program comprising:  
3           a format recognizing module which recognizes a format indicating a plurality of regions  
4   in image data; and  
5           a providing module which provides said image data in which a digital watermark is  
6   embedded in ~~all regions containing a~~ predetermined region identified by a document information  
7   among the plurality of regions based on said format.

1           Claim 54. (*Previously Presented*) A recording medium as claimed in claim 52 or 53,  
2   wherein said providing module provides said image data in which a different kind of said digital  
3   watermark is embedded in a different region in said image data.

1           Claim 55. (*Previously Presented*) A recording medium as claimed in claim 54, wherein  
2   said providing module provides said image data in which a different kind of said digital  
3   watermark is embedded according to an image quality in each region where said digital  
4   watermark is embedded.

1           Claim 56. (*Original*) A recording medium as claimed in claim 52, wherein said location  
2   information for embedding a digital watermark includes a location information of a region for  
3   displaying a specific information necessary for detecting a tamper and a location information of a  
4   region for embedding a message digest corresponding to said specific information.

1           Claim 57. (*Original*) A recording medium as claimed in claim 56, wherein said region for  
2   embedding said message digest corresponding to said specific information is independent of said  
3   region for displaying said specific information necessary for detecting said tamper.

1           Claim 58. (*Currently Amended*) A recording medium as claimed in claim 52, said  
2   program further comprising:  
3           an inputting module which inputs said image data;  
4           an extracting module which extracts said digital watermark from said image data based  
5   on said location information; and  
6           a verifying module which verifies whether said image data in said ~~regions~~ predetermined  
7   region, in which said digital watermark is embedded, has been tampered.

1           Claim 59. (*Currently Amended*) A recording medium as claimed in claim 53, said  
2   program further comprising:  
3           an inputting module which inputs said image data;  
4           an extracting module which extracts said digital watermark from said ~~regions~~  
5   predetermined region based on said format; and  
6           a verifying module which verifies whether said image data in said ~~regions~~ predetermined  
7   region, in which said digital watermark is embedded, has been tampered.

1           Claim 60. (*Previously Presented*) A recording medium as claimed in claim 58, further  
2   comprising a generating module which generates a corresponding message digest using said  
3   specific information in said input image data, and wherein:  
4           said extracting module which extracts said digital watermark with said message digest  
5   from said image data based on said location information; and  
6           said verifying module which detects tampering with said image data by comparing said  
7   extracted message digest with said corresponding generated message digest.

1           Claim 61. (*Currently Amended*) An image verifying method comprising:  
2           inputting image data in which a location information indicates a plurality of regions in  
3   said image data for embedding a digital watermark in ~~all regions containing~~ a predetermined  
4   region identified by a document information among said plurality of regions in said image data;  
5           extracting said digital watermark from said image data based on said location  
6   information; and  
7           verifying whether said image data in said ~~regions~~ predetermined region, in which said  
8   digital watermark is embedded, has been tampered.

1 Claim 62. (*Currently Amended*) An image verifying method comprising:

2 inputting image data;

3 recognizing said format of said image data, said format indicating a plurality of regions in

4 said image data for embedding a digital watermark in ~~all regions containing~~ a predetermined  
5 region identified by a document information among the plurality of regions;

6 extracting said digital watermark from said ~~regions~~ predetermined region based on said  
7 format; and

8 verifying whether said image data in said ~~regions~~ predetermined region, in which said  
9 digital watermark is embedded, has been tampered.

1 Claim 63. (*Previously Presented*) An image verifying method as claimed in claim 61,

2 further comprising generating a corresponding message digest using said specific information in  
3 said input image data, and wherein:

4 said extracting said digital watermark extracts said digital watermark with said message  
5 digest from said image data based on said location information; and

6 said verifying tampering detects tampering with said image data by comparing said  
7 extracted message digest with said corresponding generated message digest.

1           Claim 64. (*Currently Amended*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 34,  
2   wherein said digital watermark includes a digital watermark information that is extractable by  
3   using a watermark key that includes an authentication information which authenticates said  
4   image data provided by [[an]] a valid provider, and said watermark key of said image data, and  
5   wherein

6           said image utilizing apparatus which extracts said digital watermark information from  
7   said image data provided by said image providing apparatus using said watermark key provided  
8   by said image providing apparatus, verifies whether said watermark key has been tampered or  
9   not using said authentication information in said watermark key, verifies whether said image data  
10   has been tampered or not using said verified watermark key, and displays said verified image  
11   data.

1           Claim 65. (*Currently Amended*) An image processing system as claimed in claim 35,  
2   wherein said digital watermark includes a digital watermark information that is extractable by  
3   using a watermark key that includes an authentication information which authenticates said  
4   image data provided by [[an]] a valid provider, and said watermark key of said image data, and  
5   wherein

6           said image utilizing apparatus which extracts said digital watermark information from  
7   said image data provided by said image providing apparatus using said watermark key provided

8 by said image providing apparatus, verifies whether said watermark key has been tampered or  
9 not using said authentication information in said watermark key, verifies whether said image data  
10 has been tampered or not using said verified watermark key, and displays said verified image  
11 data.

1 Claim 66. (*Previously Presented*) The image processing system according to claim 34,  
2 wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1 Claim 67. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing system according to claim 66,  
2 wherein a data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an~~  
3 ~~other~~ another type of information in said image data.

1 Claim 68. (*Previously Presented*) The image processing system according to claim 35,  
2 wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1 Claim 69. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing system according to claim 68,  
2 wherein a data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an~~  
3 ~~other~~ another type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 70. (*Previously Presented*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 43,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 71. (*Currently Amended*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 70,  
2   wherein a data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for an  
3   ~~other~~ another type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 72. (*Previously Presented*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 44,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 73. (*Currently Amended*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 72,  
2   wherein a data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for an  
3   ~~other~~ another type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 74. (*Previously Presented*) The image utilizing apparatus according to claim 49,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 75. (*Currently Amended*) The image utilizing apparatus according to claim 74,  
2   wherein a data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an~~  
3   ~~other~~ another type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 76. (*Previously Presented*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 50,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 77. (*Currently Amended*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 76,  
2   wherein a data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an~~  
3   ~~other~~ another type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 78. (*Previously Presented*) The recording medium according to claim 52, wherein  
2   a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 79. (*Currently Amended*) The recording medium according to claim 78, wherein a  
2   data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an other~~ another  
3   type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 80. (*Previously Presented*) The recording medium according to claim 53, wherein  
2   a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 81. (*Currently Amended*) The recording medium according to claim 80, wherein a  
2   data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an other~~ another  
3   type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 82. (*Previously Presented*) The recording medium according to claim 58, wherein  
2   a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 83. (*Currently Amended*) The recording medium according to claim 82, wherein a  
2   data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an other~~ another  
3   type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 84. (*Previously Presented*) The recording medium according to claim 59, wherein  
2   a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 85. (*Currently Amended*) The recording medium according to claim 84, wherein a  
2   data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an other~~ another  
3   type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 86. (*Previously Presented*) The image verifying method according to claim 61,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 87. (*Currently Amended*) The image verifying method according to claim 86,  
2   wherein a data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an~~  
3   ~~other~~ another type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 88. (*Previously Presented*) The image verifying method according to claim 62,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 89. (*Currently Amended*) The image verifying method according to claim 88,  
2   wherein a data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an~~  
3   ~~other~~ another type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 90. (*Previously Presented*) The image processing system according to claim 64,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 91. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing according to claim 90, wherein a  
2   data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an other~~ another  
3   type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 92. (*Previously Presented*) The image processing system according to claim 65,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark is adjusted to a quality of said image data.

1           Claim 93. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing according to claim 92, wherein a  
2   data amount of said digital watermark for a character is smaller ~~that~~ than one for ~~an other~~ another  
3   type of information in said image data.

1           Claim 94. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing system according to claim 34,  
2   wherein said ~~regions include~~ predetermined region includes at least one of character information  
3   or image information.

1           Claim 95. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing system according to claim 94,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined region comprising  
3   character information is smaller ~~that~~ than a density of said digital watermark embedded in a  
4   predetermined region comprising image information.

1           Claim 96. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing system according to claim 35,  
2   wherein said ~~regions include~~ predetermined region includes at least one of character information  
3   or image information.

1           Claim 97. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing system according to claim 96,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined region comprising  
3   character information is smaller ~~that~~ than a density of said digital watermark embedded in a  
4   predetermined region comprising image information.

1           Claim 98. (*Currently Amended*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 43,  
2   wherein said ~~regions include~~ predetermined region includes at least one of character information  
3   or image information.

1           Claim 99. (*Currently Amended*) The image processing system according to claim 98,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined region comprising  
3   character information is smaller ~~that~~ than a density of said digital watermark embedded in a  
4   predetermined region comprising image information.

1           Claim 100. (*Currently Amended*) The recording medium according to claim 52, wherein  
2   said ~~regions include~~ predetermined region includes at least one of character information or image  
3   information.

1           Claim 101. (*Currently Amended*) The recording medium according to claim 100, wherein  
2   a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined region comprising character  
3   information is smaller ~~that~~ than a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined  
4   region comprising image information.

1           Claim 102. (*Currently Amended*) The recording medium according to claim 53, wherein  
2   said ~~regions~~ predetermined region include at least one of character information or image  
3   information.

1           Claim 103. (*Currently Amended*) The recording medium according to claim 102, wherein  
2   a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined region comprising character  
3   information is smaller ~~that~~ than a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined  
4   region comprising image information.

1           Claim 104. (*Currently Amended*) The image verifying method according to claim 61,  
2   wherein said ~~regions~~ predetermined region include at least one of character information or image  
3   information.

1           Claim 105. (*Currently Amended*) The image verifying method according to claim 104,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined region comprising  
3   character information is smaller ~~that~~ than a density of said digital watermark embedded in a  
4   predetermined region comprising image information.

1           Claim 106. (*Currently Amended*) The image verifying method according to claim 62,  
2   wherein said ~~regions include~~ predetermined region includes at least one of character information  
3   or image information.

1           Claim 107. (*Currently Amended*) The image verifying method according to claim 106,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined region comprising  
3   character information is smaller ~~that~~ than a density of said digital watermark embedded in a  
4   predetermined region comprising image information.

1           Claim 108. (*Currently Amended*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 44,  
2   wherein said ~~regions include~~ predetermined region includes at least one of character information  
3   or image information.

1           Claim 109. (*Currently Amended*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 108,  
2   wherein a density of said digital watermark embedded in a predetermined region comprising  
3   character information is smaller ~~that~~ than a density of said digital watermark embedded in a  
4   predetermined region comprising image information.

1           Claim 110. (*Original*) The image processing system according to claim 34, wherein said  
2   image processing apparatus further comprises means for storing said document information.

1           Claim 111. (*Original*) The image processing system according to claim 35, wherein said  
2   image processing apparatus further comprises means for storing said document information.

1           Claim 112. (*Original*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 43, further  
2   comprising:  
3           means for storing said document information.

1           Claim 113. (*Original*) The image providing apparatus according to claim 44, further  
2   comprising:  
3           means for storing said document information.

1           Claim 114. (*Original*) The recording medium according to claim 52, said program further  
2   comprising:  
3           a storing module which stores said document information.

1           Claim 115. (*Original*) The recording medium according to claim 53, said program further  
2   comprising:  
3           a storing module which stores said document information.

1           Claim 116. (*Original*) The image verifying method according to claim 61, further  
2   comprising:  
3           storing said document information.

1           Claim 117. (*Original*) The image verifying method according to claim 62, further  
2   comprising:  
3           storing said document information.